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FIFE SCOTTISH FOR SALE

Originally expected to be one of the first Scottish Bus Group subsidiaries offered for sale, Fife Scottish Omnibuses Ltd has finally been offered for sale as part of the privatisation of the Scottish Bus Group. It is the penultimate company to be advertised, only Highland has yet to be put up for sale.

Managing director Derek Stuart is to lead a management and employee buyout bid. Former finance director Ron McQueen left the company late in 1990 when former Highland Scottish managing director Jim Moffat joined the company as finance director and deputy managing director.

Fife has been experiencing considerable competition from independent operators. Rennies challenged much of Fife's network in Dunfermline and Moffat and Williamson did

so in Kirkaldy and Glenrothes. The level of competition experienced led to Fife gaining permission to buy 20 new MCW Metroriders in 1988 and four Reeve Burgess Renaults in 1989, some of very few SBG deliveries in the last three years. The total fleet is now around 300 vehicles operating from depots at Aberhill, Cowdenbeath, Dunfermline, Glenrothes, Kirkaldy, Newburgh and St. Andrews.

In 1989 the company made a profit of £800,000 on a turnover of £14.9 million and carried an estimated 34 million passengers. It employs 846 staff.

Among the other SBG subsidiaries on offer a sale announcement for Kelvin central is thought to be imminent and final bids for Bluebird Northern were due in by 31 January.



Most of Fife's double deckers are Alexander bodied Volv-

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1987	DAF/Caetano 11.6, Radio/PA	53	£73,000
1985	Neoplan Skyliner, TV/Video, WC, Kitchen	77	£73,000
1983	Bristol LHS/Plaxton 3200, Radio/PA	33	£21,000
1983	DAF/Plaxton 3500, Radio/PA, Side Lockers	51	£42,000
1982	DAF MB 200 DKTL/Jonc. WC, TV/Video, Radio/PA	53	£39,000
1982	MAN SR 280, WC, Kitchen, Radio/PA	48	£35,000
1980	Leyland Leopard/Duple Dom II, Radio/PA, new COF	51	£13,000
1978	AEC/Plaxton, Radio/PA	53	€ 9,000
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Scotts of Bellshill call in receivers

Scotts of Bellshill, the East Kilbride coachbuilding firm, were placed in receivership on 28 January 1991. The company will continue to operate under the management of appointed receivers RW Wilson & DC Griffith of Touche Ross until it can be ascertained whether Scotts can be sold as a going concern, or sales and dispersal of assets are necessary before passing the company into liquidation. It is hoped that all the vehicles currently in production will be completed and delivered to customers.

Scotts were originally formed over 100 years ago and became subject to a management buyout in 1986.



One of Scotts conversions seen at the 1990 Blackpool Rally.

This led to a change of premises and the decision to begin producing minibuses was taken. Problems began to occur for the company when financial projections were upset by the falling demand in the marketplace and increasing interest rates.

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News

MMC disappoint Caldaire

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission's conclusion that Caldaire Holdings Ltd's acquisition of Bluebird Securities Ltd may be expected to work a gainst the public interest, has come as a disappointment to Caldaire chairman, Ken Hodgson. The Bluebird operation included Trimdon Motor Services and Teesside Motor Services based at Trimdon Grange and Stockton respectively.

'In arriving at their conclusion the MMC has clearly ignored much of the evidence which proved that far from being against the public interest, the acquisition provided some very definite benefits to the public. Independent market research showed that only 6% of all people interviewed on Teesside, thought that the takeover had been to their disadvantage,' said Ken Hodgson

B&CB understands that the MMC's objections centre on the lack of competition that now exists in the relatively sparcely populated Trimdon area. Since the acquistion the former Trimdon operation has been fully integrated within

Impressive start

United Automobile and all staff, contracts and vehicles transferred to its Peterlee, Durham and Bishop Auckland depots. The MMC wants Trimdon to divest itself of some routes in the area to a competing operator.

The Teesside Motors Services operation, which runs 90 of the 120 buses taken over, is not thought to have concerned the MMC because of the very high level of competition that continues to exist in the area. Since acquired by Caldaire it has instigated a code of conduct to which most operators in the area now adhere, and seen the first time MoT pass rate of vehicles rise from 50% to 90%.

In a statement Ken Hodgson also pointed to Caldaire's heavy investment in new vehicles and claimed that a similar policy was envisaged for the fleets acquired from Bluebird Securities. The Caldaire chairman will be watching for the decision, expected soon, on the remarkably similar South Yorkshire Transport case covering its acquisition of SUT. He and his legal advisers may yet decide to seek a judicial appeal.

Reading appts

Mercedes Benz Finance Ltd Two new directors have been has made an impressive start appointed by Reading Transport. Colin Thompson bein Britain attracting £135 miltraffic operations lion worth of business in its comes initial three month setting up director following a 20 year period. It was established to career in the industry. He provide wide ranging financial started at Newport Borough Transport and later became support services for the 160 strong UK dealer network. traffic superintendent at Darlington, deputy general manager at KHCT, head of Newport Transport and gen-The finance services are available on all MB products including panel vans and chassis cabs or the 0303 eral manager of Yorkshire Ricoach chassis. der's Leeds operation.

James Carney assumes the post of financial director after a career with Gestetner, where he was financial controller.

Romanian relief trip

Ron Richardson, proprietor of Bolden Minicoaches, Tyne and Wear, is planning a trip to Romania, where much voluntary assistance is still needed. The trip is planned for 16 March and he already has offers of help from a surveyor, joiner, Venture Scout, and nurse to accompany him on the journey. Ideally he would also like to hear from a traffic policeman to share some of the several hundred miles of driving.

The aim of the mission is to prepare a report for the South Shields district before targeting a fund raising campaign. The report will determine where aid can best be directed without any of the funds or supplies being misdirected or used on the black market.

Ron has chosen a Talbot Express Turbo for the trip because he feels it provides exceptional fuel economy with ample power, even when fully laden and spares backup abroad will present little problem. Any assistance in



Ron Richardson studying a possible route to Romania where his team will assess the best use of charity funds.

financing or additional support would be appreciated and he is keen to locate an operator, close to Dover, who would donate a free tank of fuel before the departure by ferry. Ron can be contacted on 091–536–5656 or his mobile telephone 0860-494-275.

Green Routes

A study into providing 'Green Routes' for areas of South and West London is to be undertaken by the Metropolitan Transport Research Unit and a support group assembled from South and West London boroughs. It will be funded by London Transport and the London Planning Advisory Committee.

The study's aim is to prepare a report on introducing bus lanes and other priority measures over a network of routes throughout the two areas. These will complement the DTp's proposed 'Red Routes', enforcing a more efficient traffic flow over whole routes, rather than trying to deal with individual junctions or separate trouble spots.

Ratcliff 1991 Mobility Awards

The 1991 Ratcliff Mobility Awards have been launched and the company wish to receive nominations for consideration by 30 April. This year's top award carries a silver medal, certificate and cheque for £1000. Second place will receive a certificate and a £500 cheque.

The awards will be made to individuals, groups or organisations who, in the opinion of the judges, have made significant contributions to any of the following: a new or improved piece of equipment to assist the mobility of disabled people; a new or improved service for people with mobility handicaps; a major commitment to increasing public awareness of the need for total mobility and accessibilty for disabled people. Further information and nomination forms can be obtained from Doreen Shotton, Ratcliff Tail Lifts Ltd, Bessemer Road, Welwyn Garden City, Herts, AL7 1ET. Telephone 0707-325571.

Hilary joins Luton's Goldline

Reading Transport has appointed Hilary Dellar-Lane as coaching officer to its coaching and holiday division, Goldline.

Hilary was with the London Country (NW) Greenline operation and has worked her way up from being a bus driver through various levels of management. Goldline is aiming for a 60% expansion during 1991.

ny last year. The new buses will be powered by Gardner engines and have Voith transmissions. Bodywork will be completed by East Lancs Coachbuilders of Blackburn.

Repeat order

Bournemouth Yellow Buses

have placed a repeat order for

seven new Dennis Dominator

double deckers. This follows

the successful operation of

the first acquisitions which en-

tered service with the compa-

Vehicle Launch



POINTER

A stylish aluminium bus body from Reeve Burgess on the Dennis Dart Chassis

'Another dog from Reeve Burgess', it's the sort of headline few journalists can resist. Close on the heals of the Beagle and the Harrier, a hunting dog not a bird, Reeve Burgess have introduced the Pointer. Managing director **David Quainton prefers to say** that his product range is named after 'hairy qua-drupeds,' which neatly brings in that great Reeve Burgess success story, the Beaver. Yes they all have tails but before this tale goes completely off course it is worth pointing out that their latest offering is a dog in name only.

Available exclusively on the increasingly popular Dennis Dart chassis, the Pointer is the first Reeve Burgess product to be framed in aluminium rather than steel. David Quainton said. 'We still believe a steel frame is right for smaller buses, but for a long life vehicle of this size we studied the options carefully and concluded that aluminium offered clear benefits in weight saving long-term durability. When Trinity sold the Duple body design for the Dart the



David Quainton explaining how fiendishly clever the design of the aluminium structure is. Some of the technicalities baffled me but the gist is that it will last a long time and, should any of it be damaged, it can be easily replaced.

Reeve Burgess management thought seriously about buying it but eventually decided not to because it considered the Cromweld steel framing to be a technological blind allev.

In appearance it is arguably the most modern looking of the growing number of bodybuilders products offered on the Dart chassis. Making the most of the restricted space available on a small chassis leaves precious little room for design features once essentials like wide door apertures have been incorporated, but Alan Ponsford, the Pointer's designer, has made a very neat job of both the front and rear of the bus. GRP mouldings in three parts form the bumper sections, and the air intake necessary for the Dart's rear engine is disguised within a black moulding beneath the rear window. Alan Ponsford's company, Capoco Design, was involved with the design of the Dart chassis and the Duple 425 integral. Employed by Plaxton to work on the aluminium system. for its new bus, Reeve Bur-

Vehicle Launch

gess gave him the brief for both the styling and structure of the Pointer

of the Pointer.
Coupled with the aluminium frame which is designed for a 12 year life, the body incorporates a variety of features intended to ensure the vehicle spends the maximum time on the road, earning, throughout its operational career. The windows are gasket glazed rather than bonded and are consequently quicker and easier to replace. The front screen is a split double curvature design. The roof is a single piece of aluminium which is bonded and rivetted to the frame and the side panels, which are butt jointed and bonded to the structure, are made of the same material. The extensive use of aluminium and GRP over-comes the corrosion problems that can occur with steel. Where the aluminium body interfaces with the steel chassis the the vehicle is treated with dielectric paint. The steel has two coats of Mebon protection.

Computer aided design

Last month B&CB reported on the new single deck city bus which Plaxton are developing. The same high technology computer aided design systems used to develop that have been been employed on the Pointer. Finite element analysis has enabled its designers to pinpoint any structural weakspots before any metal has been cut. Five of the eight extrusions used on the



Is this the highest seat back in the business?

London Buses subsidiaries have already ordered 52 Pointers in 8.5 metre form, 33 of which will be built by Plaxton at Scarborough.



The Pointer incorporates a 1280mm wide door aperture.

full sized Plaxton bus are also incorporated in the Pointer, together with all of the joints.

With the increasing importance placed on DiPTAC recommendations it would be surprising if the Pointer was not well equipped in this respect. On the nine metre example we were shown there were plenty of bright green handrails, the step edgings were marked with yellow and black sharks tooth designs and there was a bus stopping sign. A choice of conventional or split step arrangements are available. The split step version has three shallow (295mm) steps and a ground to first step height of only 240mm. The door aperture is 1280mm, giving 1060mm between the door handles when the twin glider doors are open. The large destination display is situated above the



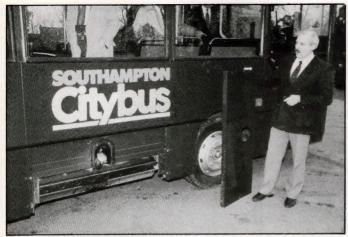
The interior is attractive with extensive use made of soft trim and Tarabus flooring. The stanchions locate in tracking in the ceiling.

main screen and separate from it, tilted forward slightly for ease of reading.

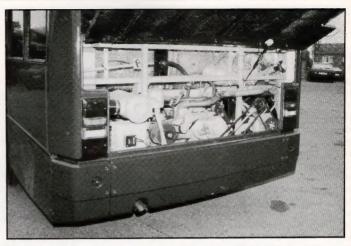
Reeve Burgess are to build the design on all three Dart length variants. On the 8.5 metre the maximum seating capacity will be 35 plus 13 standees, on the 9.0 metre, 38 + 15 and on the 9.8 metre.



Vehicle Launch



The lower side panels can be removed quickly and easily.



The Dart has a rear mounted Cummins 6BT engine.

43 + 17

The first 9.0 metre vehicle has already been purchased by Southampton Citybus. London Buses has placed the first major order for the 8.5 metre Pointer taking no less than 52 for services in the wandsworth area. South London is to take 12, London General 21 and London United 19. All are due for delivery in April and May. As the order is larger than Reeve Burgess could cope with in the timescale, the jigs and fittings are to be duplicated and 33 of the buses will be built at Plaxton's Scarborough plant. Regardless of where the buses are built they will be badged and marketed as Reeve Burgess products, and sold by the Pilsley based sales team. The London United order for 19 is to be built in Derbyshire, work on the first vehicles having alrea-



Southampton Citybus has purchased the first nine metre Pointer and will be running it alongside examples built by Carlyle and Wadham Stringer.



dy begun

David Quainton explained that the Plaxton link gives his company an advantage over other small vehicle manufacturers for whom a large order can blot out production for long periods. The ability to call on Scarborough's capacity enables Reeve Burgess to look after all of its existing customers and retain a wide customer and market base.

Prices for the Pointer range are competitive with other manufacturer's products. The 8.5 metre costs from £55,500, the 9.0 Metre from £55,700 and the 9.8 metre from £57,500.

At a time when many small vehicle manufacturers are wondering where the next order is coming from Reeve Burgess is increasing its market share by continuing to win large orders. David Quainton commented, 'Part of the secret of our success has been identifying market segments and serving them with a broad product range. Our range starts with van conversions and then increases in size through three established coachbuilt bodies, the Beaver, the Beagle and the Harrier. It now finishes with the Pointer, the biggest bus we will build.'

Stuart Jones



Pointer's emblem.

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Operator Focus

Diversity in Sheffield

Hackney and private hire taxis are regarded as competition by many coach operators but Norman and Anne Hattersley find dovetailing the running of taxis and coaches provides benefits for both. Trading under the Abbey name, they combine the operation of full sized coaches, mini coaches, midi coaches, private hire taxis, Hackney carriages, a parcel delivery service and a garage from their premises on one of Sheffield's steepest hills.

After training as a mechanic with Curtis Coaches and seeing how cut throat the coach business was in South Yorkshire, Norman vowed never to operate coaches. When he left the army in 1953 he bought a Hackney plated Austin 16 and set up in the taxi business. The heater was so ineffective that he was constantly hoping for a job to the top of the hilly City Road so the engine would get warm.

A move to using radios before the opposition did likewise helped with the growth of the business. Using the radios led to Abbey's expulsion from the local taxi association, even though they had been helping the other taxi firms by passing on messages. Some time later Norman started another taxi assowhich ran very smoothly for a while. The expansion of the number of vehicles operated led him to employ part time drivers which, in turn, led to his expulsion from that organisation. Most taxi operators operate either Hackney cabs or private hire cars, in successfully running both Abbey are com-paratively unusual. The busi-ness became a limited company in July 1971.

Today there are eight Abbey private hire cars and one Austin FX4 Hackney. In addi-



Abbeys first coach was this Berkhof Everest bodied Leyland Tiger which has air conditioning

tion the company rents radios to around 80 Hackney and private hire vehicles. The solitary FX4 is one of a large number operated for a brief period by Lincoln City Transport. It is painted white which distinguishes it Hackneys without wheelchair facilities and also enables it to be used on the wedding jobs for which it is sometimes requested. In common with many taxi operators Abbey recognised the possibilities for running a parcel delivery operation alongside the taxis. Now nine vans are operated as part of the City Link network. The offices are manned 24 hours a day because of the taxi business. In total there are 20 office staff of which

three concentrate mainly on the coaching side, though there is considerable overlap in the duties of a number of other staff

The mini/midibus fleet currently stands at six, consisting of three Mercedes 307Ds, an eight seat VW Transporter and two Mercedes 608Ds, one with 21 and the other with 25 seats. Though most of the small vehicles are Mercedes this is likely to change in future, as has already started to happen with the van fleet. 'We've always had Mercedes but Mercedes parts prices and terms have led us to change to Ford. Our next minibus will be a Transit,' Norman said.'

Despite long standing misgivings about full sized

coaches, Abbey acquired its first full sized coach in March Berkhof Everest a bodied Leyland Tiger. Purchased from Stuart Johnson it had previously been with London Country and had reclining seats, a toilet and Sutrak air conditioning. Stuart Johnson had two at the time and Norman wishes he could have afforded to buy both, the one has been such a good The vehicle. move coaches was prompted by two things. Mini and midi coaches had been operated for some time, many of them on con-tracts for Sheffield Council. Norman sensed that he would lose work as the council got more involved in operating its own schools and handicapped transport requirements. Full sized coaches were a way of replacing business. With the existing fleet of small vehicles and taxis Abbey was already receiving requests for bigger vehicles.

The move has successful and the five large vehicles are now owned. There is no particular vehicle policy for new fleet additions, some have been bought at very short notice. Norman has found the Leyland Leopard to be, 'a good solid plodder' and he now has three. Two have Plaxton Viewmaster bodies and the third is a Duple Dominant. The newest member of the fleet is a DAF MB with Plaxton Paramount 3500 coachwork. Bought secondhand from Stuart Johnson last September, it has 53 recliners and a toilet and has been down seated to 49 and toilet to make it more comfortable.

The majority of the work undertaken is for tour operators although there are a number of works contracts too. Although not under contract to them, the company does quite a lot of work for National Ex-



The premises in Sheffield which were built in the early 1970s.

Operator Focus



Leyland Leopards with Plaxton Viewmaster bodywork have proved robust and reliable.

press. Though National Express had the Rotherham Travel Services operation based at the Carlton premises at Hellaby, it took vehicles a long time to get from Hellaby to Sheffield's Pond street coach station. RTS has now been disbanded and Abbey is in a good position, five minutes from Pond Street, to handle whatever comes up. The 24 hour call out facility is another advantage, all managers have bleeps so if a coach is required at short notice it can be provided. As there is no contract between the two companies Abbey can refuse to turn out if other work prevents it. Sometimes loads are small enough to enable the use of a taxi, cars have been to Torquay and Glasgow on ocassions. A lot of feeder work is done for tour companies, though most of this involves the smaller vehicles.

An example of how the different facets of the Abbey operation benefit each other can be seen in the fact that each of the coaches is equipped with a taxi radio. When the driver is on the outskirts of Sheffield on the return journey he asks passengers whether need taxis and can arrange to have them meet the coach. Not only does it generate business, it provides an additional service to the customers. The tiger is also fitted with a telephone which is available for customer use and a portable phone can be used with any of the rest of the fleet.

Another example of the flexibility possible through the inter-relationship of the businesses comes in the way staff can be re-deployed. On the evening previous to my visit a coach had been scheduled to take supporters to a football match in Coventry, but the game had been called off in

the afternoon. The driver allocated the job finished up driving a Mercedes 250D to a Manchester hospital with an urgent blood sample. In the early 1970s, when the garage premises were built, Atcost put up the building frame and roof and the staff and taxi drivers did the rest of the building work. They wouldn't be able to do it now because of the Health and Safety laws but it shows how the workforce of the company has always been very flexible.

After two years in full sized coaching Norman has no regrets about entering the field. Things were not easy at first but after about a year things started to change for the better. 'It's not as cut throat as it was, we don't lose people like we did, once we get people they tend to come back now,' said Norman, 'it was going quite well up to this latest recession. I won't say it's gone flat, but it has pulled back.' Fortunately a drop off in trade on the coaching front is less difficult for Abbey than it is for many operators because as Norman points out, 'We've got so many businesses in one that if one goes slow the others pick up. The taxis are a good back-up.

The war against Saddam Hussain had begun on the night before my visit to Sheffield and was in everyone's thoughts. 'Obviously I've got to think about it, we've made sure we've got a good stock of diesel. My thoughts are that if a lot of folks are over there, then their families might not travel this year. Let's hope they get it over and done with quickly,' said Norman. 'We put a surcharge on when diesel first went up. It came down a



One of two Mercedes 608Ds with one of a pair of Leopard Viewmasters.

bit but it will go up again now. Customers appreciate the situation, nobody has complained about it though a few have asked.'

Norman would like to see more co-operation between coach firms in the same way that he finds the confederation of taxi firms works quite well. Specifically excluding National Express with whom he has a good relationship, he says, 'We have had problems getting paid by certain coach firms, it's a pity coach and tour operators don't pay quicker. Of late he has found that people owe more, longer, especially on the parcels side, though he does keep his finger very firmly on the problem. Abbey are not members of BCC though they are in the Freight Transport Association. Abbey does not have a pricing structure, someone rings up and asks for a vehicle he looks at it on a day to day basis.

Norman did not find the additional maintenance requirements of full sized vehicles presented many problems. He said. 'We didn't have to change much when we started running coaches because we had the feel of the maintenance requirements from running PSV minibuses. We had to arrange for the use of bigger premises and we took on an extra coach mechanic. As a trained mechanic himself Norman does muck in when he has to. If neccesary he has been known to drive a feeder service to make sure a driver does not go over his hours.

Asked whether taxis or coaches are the easiest to run, Norman had little hesitation in saying the taxis, 'because so many are owner drivers and you don't have the tachographs.' He added, 'I wish they'd invent small tachos for cars so we could see more accurately what they do, how long they lay over, for instance.'

Norman and Anne are proud of the service they provide. Norman said, 'The minibuses came out of the taxis and the coaches came out of the minibuses. It's great that people can ring one firm and get whatever type of transport they want.'

'I set my stall out to have everything paid for and no commitments when I'm 65, in case I want to retire. I don't suppose I will ever retire to my flat in Tenerife (available for rent – contact Norman for details). We know that with the work we've got booked for this year, if it materialises, the future's rosy. If the recession stays longer than we think, it will be more of a struggle.'



The newest coach in the current fleet is this DAf MB Plaxton Paramount 3500 which was purchased from Stuart Johnson.

Products & Services

Gardner open training centre

Gardner have opened a new training centre at their Eccles, Manchester plant. It will offer specialist engine courses. held over three days, for bus operators. The full LX range of PSV engines is covered as well as the new generation LG1200. Gardner instructors will provide courses on sermaintenance vice. diagnostics. At the end of the course, participants will be presented with manuals and charts referring to the topics covered. Places can be booked by contacting Kim Davenport on 061-789-2201, extension 301.

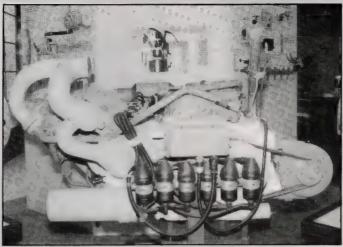
Three-pronged attack on stains

The Wiseman Group have developed three new products for the removal of graffiti from various surfaces. They are designed to act upon the surface to be cleaned rather than the chemical properties of the stain defacing it. The range is called 'Gerroff' and is available in 500ml spray bottles from builders and plumbers merchants or in larger five litre packs.

Gerroff is claimed to remove aerosol spray paint, gloss paint, felt pen, ink and lipstick. Gerroff Red is for use on brick, concrete and metal surfaces. Gerroff Blue is for use on plastic surfaces and is said not to leave cracking or crazing and Gerroff Green is claimed to remove aerosol paint from painted surfaces. Full details of the products can be obtained from The Wiseman Group, Manufacturing Chemists, PO Box 58, High Street, Ingatestone, Essex, CM4 9DL. Telephone 0277-353330/354554.

Eberspacher 'Hot Lines'

Eberspacher have taken on the sole European distribution rights for Raychem's Thermoline range. Operators wishing to fit the heated fuel lines will be able to take advantage of Eberspacher's 65 strong dealer network which will be able to supply or fit the lines on a local basis.



The MAN M 2566 methanol powered engine displayed at the Brussels Show.

Alternate fuel MAN engines

Munich manufacturers MAN displayed two of their engines, developed for use with alternative fuels, at the Brussels Show in January. The M 2566 runs on methanol and is a six cylinder unit producing 198 Kw at 2200 rpm

giving a torque figure of 1050 Nm at 1400 rpm. Additionally, the G 2866 DUM, also a six cylinder unit, is powered by propane and produces 177 KW at 2200 rpm giving 860 Nm at 1000 rpm.

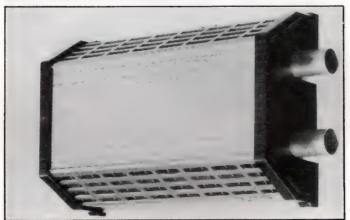
More efficient heating system

AVP Purmo have launched their latest saloon heating system, the P90, which is a twin pipe convection heater, boasting some impressive output figures. Independent DIN tests are said to give an output of 1.735 Kw per metre length, over twice the output from any convection system previously tested under the same conditions.

The P90 offers easier installation than previous models due to newly designed moulded clips and gives a neater finished appearance offering a uniform surface along saloon sides. The cover keeps down surface temperature so as not to cause

unpleasant surprises for passengers and it is strong enough to prevent the pulling back of any sharp edges which could cause harm.

Discarded rubbish rolls off the sloped casing and any paper or cigarette ends that get forced into the vents can be removed easily with a hose or an air line. Hard aluminium fins, resistant to bending, ensure that there is no distortion whilst the cleaning process is in operation. The underside is also sloped for easy cleaning. The P90 has already been incorporated as standard fit equipment on Leyland Lynx Ils and Plaxton's new City Bus.



AVP Purmo's latest convection system, the P90.

Single name

Lucas are currently preparing to drop all subsidiary brand names and leave just one 'superbrand' for all their products. Familiar names like CAV and Girling will disappear gradually from the marketplace and by September 1992 only the Lucas name will appear.

A new appointment to head up the sales and marketing of Lucas products has also been announced. Peter Kenny-Smith becomes marketing manager, parts and service, moving from the braking parts and service division where he was also marketing manager.

Transport forum

Fuel supply specialists FP & T Installations, are to host a forum dealing with the integration of information technology. Also supported by BP Card Services and Road Tech Computer Systems, the event will be held at the Hilton National Hotel, Warwick on Feruary 19-20. Experts will be on hand to discuss fuel dispensing management, traffic office management, accounting and any other topical issues. Operators will also be given demonstrations of advanced hardware and software. For an information pack contact Kath on 0254-871791.

Roadshow returns

The Transport Roadshow is once again planning a series of small exhibitions for the year, starting with an event at the National Motorcycle Museum, Solihull on 6 February. Admission to the roadshow is free with reduced admission charges for the museum available for anyone wishing to view the permanent displays. Companies offering their expertise will be Triscan - fuel management specialists, Protech — office mana-gement systems, Weighwrite - axle weighbridges, Perthcrest Tranman - fleet mangement, Allied Tanks - manufacturers and installers, County Pumps - dispensing pump services, BP Agency Cards cash free refuelling and Central Tyres. Further information is available from Christine on 0254-682111.

Fleet Additions

Prototype DAF

Eavesway of Ashton in Makerfield are taking delivery of a prototype DAF SB3000 DKX which is the first vehicle of its type in the UK. Hughes DAF are supplying the new coach which will carry Van Hool Alizee bodywork and features the new ZF Easyshift transmission system. The silver, blue and green coach will be built to full executive standard similar to the two previous models obtained from the Cleckheaton dealers, one of which is used for transporting the Everton football team.





Southend Transport have bought four new Leyland Olympian double deckers. Two are 78 seaters with luggage pens, full DiPTAC specification and heated windscreens. The other pair are fitted with 72 Algarve coach seats, full DiPTAC specification, heated windscreens and Hannover side and rear destination displays.



Pennine Blue's Algarve

Manchester operator Pennine Blue have taken delivery of this 12 metre Dennis Javelin fitted with a 3.35 Algarve high floor body. The coach is fitted with 53 reclining seats, courier seat, power plug door, continental door, tinted windows, full draw curtains, radio/PA/cassette system, full soft trim and centre gangway carpet. Salvador Caetano UK supplied the vehicle in three shades of blue on a metallic blue base.

US SHOP — BUS SHOP — BUS SHOP

BUS SHOP

VAN HOOL ASTROMEGA 1983 Full Spec, 77 seats.

16 high back seats, carpet to roof, radio/cassette, power door, white, new clutch, only 64,000 miles, MoT'd to Oct '91

£11,000 Tel: (0707) 262126 (Herts) 91/8744/N

MERCEDES 609D REEVE BURGESS

20 seat coach, 1988 E Reg, all usual extras, PSV test April '91. Good average condition, one owner.

£13,950 + VAT Tel: 0535 653350

91/7998/MB

Oct 1988 (F) TRANSIT 190D

BUS SHOP

X REG LEYLAND LEOPARI DUPLE DOMINANT IV

500 S/A. Bristol dome, power door, 53 retrimmed seats, new centre gangway rubber. 12 metres long, tax and MoT. Body all white, tinted windows

£14,750 Oares of Hollywell (0352) 713339 (N. Wales) 91/7941/BS

BUS SHOP

1978 BEDFORD PJK PLAXTON SUPREME

29 seater, above average condition, well maintained, engine just overhauled, MoT Sept 1991.

Tel: Street's Coachways (0271) 74057

BUS SHOP



Salvador Caetano UK have supplied this Algarve 3.35 metre coach to J.R. Dent of Market Rasen. It is mounted on a 12 metre Dennis Javelin chassis featuring a 240 bhp Cummins engine, six speed ZF gearbox and full air suspension. The specification includes 49 reclining seats, courier seat, rear mounted fresh water flush toilet, hot water boiler, fridge, two-monitor video installation, power plug door, tinted glazing, full draw curtains, continental exit, radio/PA/cassette system and full soft trim. The livery is white with yellow and red reliefs.

Fleet Additions



ABC Travel have purchased a new Optare MetroRider for their tendered service running from central Liverpool to the Brunswick Business Centre. The new generation MetroRider is a long wheelbase version fitted with 33 moquette trimmed seats and has provision for 16 standee passengers. The saloon interior is soft trimmed in two tone needle cord and has tinted windows.

Davenport on 061-789-2201, extension 301.

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The P90 offers easier installation than previous models due to newly designed moulded clips and gives a neater finished appearance offering a uniform surface along salong sides. The cause



Stevensons of Uttoxeter have increased their fleet to service new route requirements. Five new Mercedes minibuses, bodied by Robert Wright, have been purchased. Two are 811Ds with 29 seats and the other three are 814Ds with 33 seats. They all have manual gearboxes and are fitted with Purmo heating. The company also purchased a pair of 709Ds early in 1990 that were direct replacements for two lveco 49.10s, since sold to Midland Fox. The latest quintet all bear Stevenson's yellow and black colour scheme.



Wrigley's Coaches of Irlam, Manchester, have just purchased this MAN 16.290 HOCL Jonckheere Deauville. The specification includes 51 Vogel reclining seats, courier seat, centre sunken toilet, continental exit, driver's sleeping compartment, radio/PA/cassette system, TV/video installation, full soft interior trim including carpets and full draw curtains and a Shades combination fridge and drinks unit. The coach has an attractive white and blue livery and is seen in the photograph with Colin Wrigley accepting delivery from Alan White of Jonckheere UK.



Hennings Executive Travel have confirmed their faith in Toyota Optimos by taking delivery of a new Mk II GL model. It is fitted with 19 seats and has a radio/PA system. West Durham Coach Sales supplied the new coach in white with shades of red relief.



Bristol operator, Blue Iris have recently taken delivery of this Toyota Optimo from Yeates Bus & Coach. It is a 21 seat version and has a radio/PA/cassette system fitted. The livery is pale blue with dark blue skirting.

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TWO DOUBLE **DECKERS LEYLAND PD3**

Ex Southdown, MoT and Tax

Both for £5,000 ono

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1979 VAN HOOL

ARAGON AEC 760

seats, power door power steering, 6 speed ZF, new carpets and heeltrims, curtains, repainted white, akes relined, tested for 12 months, private plate (extra) in beautiful condition!

£8.950 + VAT

Phone: Preston (0772) 687114

or Mobile: (0836) 220781 91/8483/BS



eed, 16 high back Capri seats, full soft . Also standard spec available

back Capri seats covered in moquette, lino, full soft trim, luggage racks, steheater, quad vent, COF

BUS SHOP

1983 DAF

48 seater (recliners) VAN HOOL ALIZEE

EXECUTIVE

C/W tollet, radio/PA/cassette, PSV'd, **VGC**

Give away price. Ring (0285) 720752/3 or (0285) 653882 (evenings) 91/8004/BS

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'F' REG 1989 MERCEDES ENSIGN CHARISMA

52 seats (inc driver), recliners, toilet, drinks, sleeper compt, radio/cassette/PA, air cond, MoT'd

Price on Application Tel: (0285) 720752/3 or

(0285) 653882 (Evenings) 91/8003/BS

BUS SHOP

1980 (W) TRANSIT, PETROL, 16 high back moquette seats, MoT March, all white.....£1.750

(0222) 884648/9

BUSES



DACHES IMMEDIATE DELIVERY

s seats covered in moquette, plywood to saloon, interior lights, COF

1983 Y Reg **LEYLAND TIGER 218 PLAXTON 3200**

Semi-automatic gearbox, radio, PA, cassette. MoT April 1992, power door, blue & maroon

£23,950 + VAT Part exchange considered

Tel: 0734 713257

DAF MB 200 DKTL PLAXTON SUPREME IV

BUS SHOP

53 seats, 12 metre, power door, curtains, W Reg. excellent condition

Tel: 0325 353837

BUS SHOP

VAN HOOL ASTROMEGA 1983 Full Spec, 77 seats.

16 high back seats, carpet to roof, io/cassette. power door, white, n clutch, only 64,000 miles, MoT'd to Oct '91

£11,000

Tel: (0707) 262126 (Herts) 91/8744/N

MERCEDES 609D REEVE BURGESS

20 seat coach, 1988 E Reg, all usual extras, PSV test April '91. Good average condition, one owner.

£13,950 + VAT

Tel: 0535 653350

Oct 1988 (F) TRANSIT 190D

1981 VOLVO B10M

Van Hool Alizee

48 + one courier seat Re-trim, TV, radio, toilet, MoT tested

£24,000

Tel: 041 952 0064

BUS SHOP

BEDFORD 330 NJM SERVICE BUS

T Reg, 37 seats, power door, full year's PSV test certificate

£2,000

Telephone: Harte Bus Company 0475 84805 _{91/8749/BS}

BUS SHOP

X REG LEYLAND LEOPARD **DUPLE DOMINANT IV**

680 S/A. Bristol dome, power door, 53 retrimmed seats, new centre gangway rubber. 12 metres long, tax and MoT. Body all white, tinted windows

£14.750 Oares of Hollywell

(0352) 713339 (N. Wales) 91/7941/BS

BUS SHOP

1978 BEDFORD PJK **PLAXTON SUPREME**

29 seater, above average condition, well maintained, just overhauled, MoT Sept 1991,

Street's Coachways

(0271) 74057 91/8746 BS

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BEDFORD/ PLAXTON

35 seater

YMP 1982 (August)

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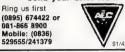
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AEC 760 1982, Plaxton Supreme, seats, £14,500. Tel: 52080.

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1987 BEDFORD YMP 'S' PLAXTON PARAMOUNT 3200

2 star specification, 22 reclining seats, fully carpeted, PA/tape deck, double glazing, excellent condition

Choice of two £36,000 one plus VAT

Contact: Armchair Passenger Transport, Brentford

Telephone: 081 568 8227

1980 'W' REG DUPLE DOMINANT II, recon engine just fitted, MoT till Dec '91, very good condition. £5,000 + VAT. Phone: Ivan Thomas 081 397 4276

BOVA

BOVA EXECUTIVE EUROPA

51 seats, toilet, TV, video, coffee machine, Webasto, private plate, MoT November '91. Excellent condition and first class

£26,950 + VAT or very near offer Office: (0487) 843333 After Hours: (0353) 740813

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24HR Delivery
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1982 BOVA EUROPA, 51 reclining seats, continental door, courier seat, private plate, diamond white — no lettering. MoT Nov 91, lots of new parts fitted. £25,250 Tel: (06943) 429 (Shropono. shire)

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BEDFORD



More efficient

AVP Purmo have launched their latest saloon heating

system, the P90, which is a

twin pipe convection heater,

boasting some impressive output figures. Independent

DIN tests are said to give an

output of 1.735 Kw per metre length, over twice the output

from any convection system

previously tested under the

lation than previous models

newly

moulded clips and gives a

neater finished appearance

The P90 offers easier instal-

designed

same conditions.

to

due

BEDFORD 1981 DOMINANT III

Cherished plates, 53 'E' type seats, MoT Oct '91, very clean, recent rebuilt engine, owner driver.

Re-advertised due to time wasters £9,500 ono

For quick sale Tel: (0703) 643885 (Hants)

1982 Y REG YNT

TURBO DOMINANT IV

53 seater, new engine and gearbox, re-trimmed seats, new curtains, air door, Bristol dome, side lockers, radio, PA and tape, immaculate condition inside and out, telephone if required. MoT until August 91, taxed. Must be seen.

£18,000 + VAT

Stans Coaches, Maldon, Essex

(0621) 891959 (Anytime)

LEYLAND

1983 LEYLAND 245

Semi auto, 3500 Plaxton, 46 recliners + courier, toilet, washroom, double glazing, continental door, seat belts, public address

£33,000 + VAT

Tel: (0244) 531042

91/7976/LE

MAN

MAN SR 280

High-liner 1982

Private plate, MoT Dec 1991, 49 recliners, toilet, fridge, drinks machine, tinted windows, roller blinds, driver's bunk, radio/cassette, PA system, first class condition

£29,000 + VAT

Tel: (0896) 55577 or (0896) 55671 91/8759/MAN

SR 280 High Liner

Tempo 100, 51 reclining seats plus cou-Tempo 10U, 51 reclining seats plus cou-rier, centre sunken follet, continental door, TV/video/stereo, Nomad drinks machine, tinted double glazing, driver's bunk, blinds, wheel disc, heated mir-rors, electric drivers window, exhaust brake, Voith retarder, Sutrak air conditioning. Webasto heater, tested Dec 91 Immaculate condition

£30,000 + VAT ono Tel: 081 574 8764

offering a uniform surface DAF

1985 DAF CARIBBEAN II

49 recliners, toilet, courier, MoT October '91. Speed restricter fitted and cherished number.

Choice of three

£42,500 + VAT

P/X Considered

Phone: (0785) 211433

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LEYLAND

Wrigley's Coaches of Irlam, Manchest

16.290 HOCL Jonckheere Deauville. Th

reclining seats, courier seat, centre s ver's sleeping compartment, radio/PA. lation, full soft interior trim including of

a Shades combination fridge and drin

ive white and blue livery and is ser

LEYLAND TIGER 1982

218 ZF, 12 metre, Supreme V, 53 str, tinted glass, radio, PA, tape, wired for video, Eberspacher, MoT 5.11.91, in excellent condition throughout.

> £23,750 Tel: 05773 360

(Perth) 91/8000/LE

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SAVE OVER 30% on Shock Absorbers
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24HR Delivery
ASHLEY BANKS
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FAX: 0778 36721

2 **YEAR** 500000 WARRANTY 191/7894/MC

MIDICOACH

Wrigley accepting delivery from Alan FORD FARO, 25 highback moquette seats, power doors, MoT Sept '91, taxed till March '91, good runner, with boot, clean condition and reliable, £3,250 + VAT. Tel: 0262 400226 (between 10 am and 5 pm).

MINIBUSES

FREIGHT ROVER SHERPA 350 **Diesel Dormobile Bus** 1987 D Reg

16 low back moquette seats + 5 standees, elec op. door, soft trim, sides and roof. Choice of several, ex large operator. All well in test and all excellent bodily and mechanically

> £3,950 + VAT 0535 653350

(W. Yorks) 91/7997/MB

TALBOT EXRESS TURBO, E reg, 16 seats, full soft trim. Bargain, first £5,995 available March. 091 536 5656 91/8490/MB

Travellers Coach Co. Ltd

LEYLAND TIGERS

1984/5

245 Manual Van Hool Alizee H 51 reclining seats, two entrances, radio, PA, new test

> 1984 £42,500 1985 £47,500



Phone Bob Vale Coach Sales. Tel 081 574 3424



LEYLAND SWIFT 1989

23/27 reclining seats, video, coffee machine, fridge, tables, Eberspacher heater, exhaust, brake, courier seat, side lockers, big boot, low mileage, MoT Jan '92

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LEYLAND LEOPARD

1979 Plaxton, Mk V front, 57 seats, semi-automatic, roof, matching trim.

£14,000 25 Seater taken in P/X (0222) 884648/9

MINIBUSES



NEW & SECONDHAND MINI-COACHES IMMEDIATE DELIVERY

LEYLAND DAF 400 DIESEL, 5 speed, 16 high back Capri seats, full soft trim, luggage racks, tinted windows. Also standard spec available

TALBOT EXPRESS 15 seater, high back Capri seats covered in moquette, full length plywood floor covered in lino, full soft trim, luggage racks, stereo/cassette, four speakers, saloon heater, quad vent, COF

NISSAN URVAN 12 seater Minibus seats covered in moquette, plywood floor, covered in lino, full soft trim to saloon, interior lights, COF

MERCEDES 609D, SWB automatic, 20 moquette seats, radio cassette, four speakers, tacho, coach rear end

Stock list available on request

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'84 TRANSIT 2.5 Di, overdrive, 12 moquette seats, MoT 29.4.91 £3,750 + VAT

1985 TRANSIT 2.5 Di, 16 seater + 5 standees, MoT 22.4.91 **£5,250** + **VAT**

Tel: (0243) 376886

91/7994/MB

1984 (B) IVECO 35.8 DIESEL, high roof, 14 H/B seats, curtains, armrests, well maintained, test Sept '91. Bargain at £4,500 plus VAT. Tel: (0274) 686373

CONCEPT COACHCRAFT

SPECIAL OFFER £16,495

LEYLAND DAF 16 SEAT PSV LUXURY MINICOACH

TV, video, radio cassette, PA system 10 speakers. H/back coach seats on tracks, rear saloon heater, tinted windows, full size parcel racks Finance available

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(Weekends) 91/8597/

1984 FORD 16 seater Mellor conversion, immaculate throughout, MoT Dec 1991. Would exchange for later vehicle either 12, 16 or 20 seater. Tel & Fax: (0952) 811285.

WEST DURHAM COACH SALES LTD

1988 TOYOTA OPTIMO GL, 21 seats, MoT Dec 1991, very tidy coach, ideal for private hire or tour work

1987 TOYOTA OPTIMO GL, 18 seats, TV/Video, hot water & fridge, good all round machine

1988 TOYOTA OPTIMO GL, 21 seats, very good condition 1987 TOYOTA OPTIMO GL, 19 seats, will be sold with full MoT, highly presentable

1983 MERCEDES BENZ 608D, 19 seats MoT September 1991, good condition

1985 FORD PLAXTON PARAMOUNT BODY, 35 seats, facilities for TV & Video, outstanding value

1982 BOVA DAF EUROPA, 52 recliners, MoT August 1991, Radio & PA Mechanically sound

For further details contact:

IAIN TREVIS — (0388) 811848

91/8832/MB

1988 'F' TOYOTA OPTIMO GL COACH

19 seats + table, MoT until November '91, good condition

> £22,000 + VAT Tel: 0287 633971

> > or evenings 0287 633506 91/7991/MB

OCTOBER 1987 'E' REG

FORD TRANSIT

16 high back seats, carpet to roof, radio/cassette, power door, white, new clutch, only 64,000 miles, MoT'd to Oct '91

£11,000 Tel: (0707) 262126 (Herts) 91/8744/MI

MERCEDES 609D REEVE BURGESS

20 seat coach, 1988 E Reg, all usual extras, PSV test April '91. Good average condition, one owner.

£13,950 + VAT

Tel: 0535 653350

91/7998/MB

Oct 1988 (F) TRANSIT 190D Dormobile Mini Bus

16 seat plus 4 standees, power door, destination screen, heater and tachograph, C.O.F. Dec '91, very good condition.

£12,000 + VAT ono

Walkers Mini Buses 0375 677007 (Essex)

91/8487/MI

1983 'A' REG MERCEDES 307D, 12 seater, high roof, high back seats, MoT to July '91, very good condition £3,200 + VAT. Phone: Ivan Thomas 081-397 4276

1982 MERCEDES 207D, 12 high backed seats, high roof, Whittaker conversion, taxed/tested to May 1991, finished all white, owned from new, very clean. £3,000 + VAT. Tel: (0925) 221792 (day) or (0925) 226334 (evenings). 91/7999/MB

1987 (E) FREIGHT ROVER DIE-SEL, 16 seater + 5 standees, PSV minicoach, full spec coach trim, power door. E. G. Commercial. Tel: 081-599 3891 (Romford). Plus 20 other selected Ford transits.

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OPTARE

1987 OPTARE CITY PACER, 25 seater, low mileage, excellent condition. £13,500 Part exchange smaller coach a possibility. Tel: 082 626 280

SCANIA

1987 (E) SCANIA 112 PLAXTON 3500

51/55 recliners, toilet, TV, video, coffee machine, double glazing etc. etc.

£55,000 + VAT or nearest offer

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continental door, new MoI
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John Dover 084421 7994 or 0836 280951, London and Eastern Area UK, Malcolm J. Watkins 0568 84637 or 0836 349938, Western Area UK

1989 LAG PANORAMIC INTEGRAL, 49 reclining seats, full air conditioning, radio, PA, tape, 2 monitor video system, carpets, curtains, tinted double glazing, continental door and steps, centre sunken toilet, bunk, Webasto, water boiler, fridge, Telma, full soft trim, new MoT.

1986 LAG PANORAMIC INTEGRAL, 49 reclining seats, radio, PA, tape, 2 monitor video system, carpets, curtains, tor video system, captes, cutans, tinted double glazing, Continental door and steps, centre sunken toilet, bunk, Webasto, water boiler, fridge, Telma, full soft trim, new MoT

1986 SETRA 215HD, 49 recliners, centre sunken toilet, cont steps, powered Cont. door, wired for water boiler, video equipment, fridge, radio PA & tape, carpet to saloon, centre aisle, curtains to side windows, finished in white.

1980 DAF MB200 DKTL PLAXTON

SUPREME IV, 57 reclining seats, radio, PA and tape system

1988 DAF SB2305 DHS CAETANO AL-GARVE. 49/53 seats, demountable toilet, 2 x TV, video, hot water boiler, courier seat, driver's bunk, carpets and curtains

1984 MERCEDES V8 NEOPLAN CLU-BLINER. 59 seater, radio, PA, tape, 2 TV & video 2 tables, curtains, blinds, tinted glass, Webasto, power door, cont door, toilet, water heater, courier seat, coffee machine, kitchen, side lockers and soft trim. New MoT

1982 NEOPLAN CITYLINER MERCEDES V8, 49 seater, TV & video, coffee ma-chine, driver's bunk, centre sunken toilet, curtains, new MoT

1976 LEYLAND LEOPARD DUPLE DOMINANT. 53 seats, radio, semi auto, new MoT

liners, ZF reconditioned gearbox, new clutch, 265 bhp, toilet, TV/video equip-1988 VOLVO BIOM CAETANO ALGAR-VE. 49/53 seats, centre toilet, TV & video, courier seat, double glazing and

ment. Webasto. Nomad drinks machine, carpets, curtains, courier seat, radio/PA & tape, and plug door, repainted in white. 1982 DAF PLAXTON SUPREME V.

47 seater, radio, PA, tape, TV/video, tinted glass, power door, toilet, water heater, courier seat, coffee machine and side lockers

1986 LAG PANORAMIC INTEGRAL KITCHEN COACH, 46 reclining seats, with rear servery, full air conditioning, centre toilet, continental step, water boiler, fridge, plus usual executive

features

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